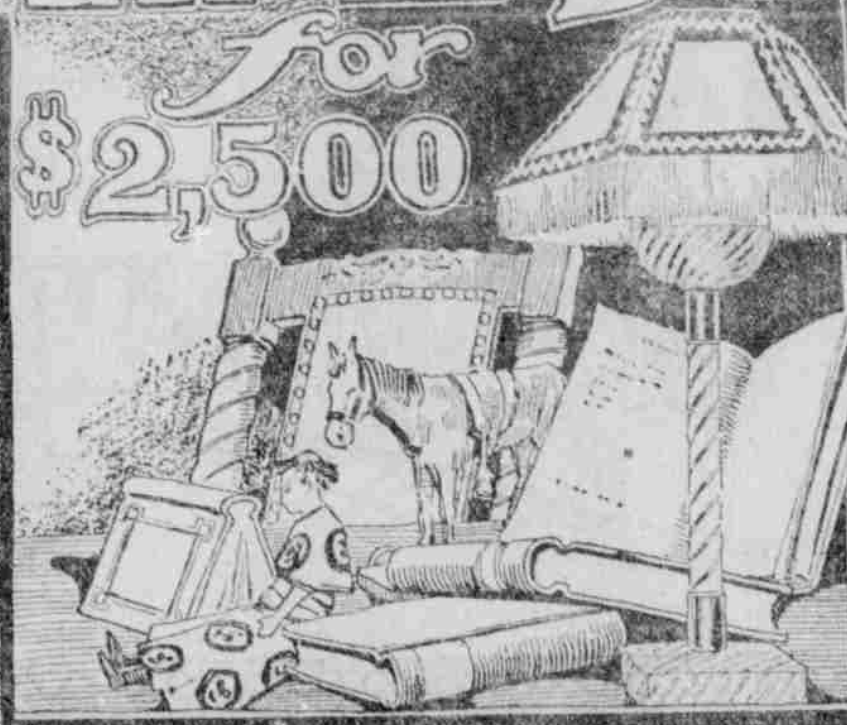


How a Home May Be Built for \$2,500



MUSIC
IN THE
PARLOR

DINING
ROOM
FINISHED IN
RICH
RED
BURLAP

Faulty Construction and How It Can Be Remedied by Careful Attention to Details at the Start. Some Suggestions Concerning Interior Furnishing

WHILE home seekers want to get the full value of the money they expend for a home, they find a variety of designs in houses that are faulty in some respects while satisfactory in others. The one who is satisfied in all respects is a surprise to the architect. Plans and specifications are shown, but there is almost always a flaw to be found somewhere. Either the front entrance is in the wrong place, the upper floor is laid out improperly, there is a lack of closet space, or something else is wrong.

In the floor plans and elevation, with the interior views, presented today—the design of Dreiser, of Brooklyn—is not to be made a legitimate criticism, all the elements of the house being taken into consideration.

This house is located in Brooklyn, on a corner, and for that reason makes a good appearance. There is ample light and the rooms are all bright and airy. On the ground floor, as will be seen by the floor plan, are entrance hall, parlor, dining-room, kitchen, pantry, etc., while the upper floor is divided into comfortable sleeping rooms, bathroom, etc. The sleeping rooms are furnished with sufficient closet accommodation, and in the attic are a couple of sleeping rooms that may be omitted in order to make the cost of the house somewhat less. In a case like this provision is always made for the probability of fitting up these rooms later, in case of necessity.

The cellar of the house is of hammer-dressed stone, and contains the usual bins for vegetables, coal, wood, etc., and is provided with a hot-air furnace. In a house of greater cost a hot-water heater would be used, and the house would be piped for it, having radiators, instead of registers, in each room.

The super-structure is of hemlock, with matchboard siding, paper sheathed and clapboarded. This insures good protection from the cold in winter. A broad veranda is a feature of the front of the house, and, with hammock and easy chairs, makes a comfortable resting place for the summer evenings.

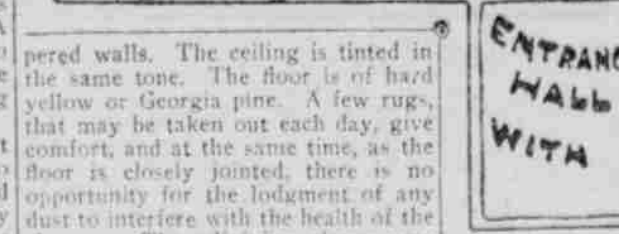
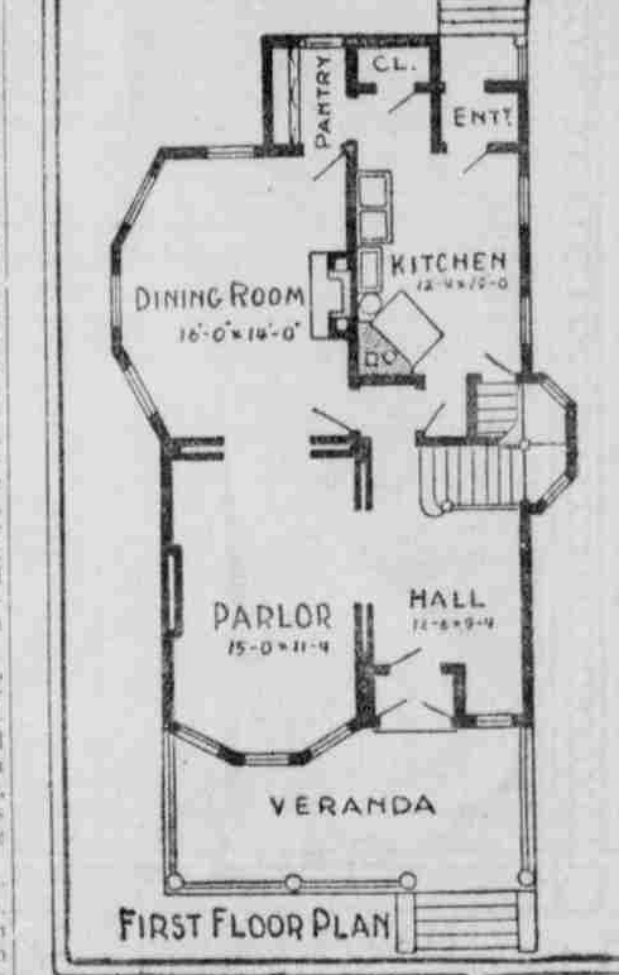
The lower floor is finished in cypress wood, oiled and rubbed down. The entrance hall has a double turn stairway, the walls being covered with a handsome green burlap, which sets off the luster of the woodwork. A tinted ceiling gives a pleasant tone to the room and harmonizes with the adjoining parlor, separated by sliding doors and portieres.

The parlor is finished in a light green paper with ceiling tinted to match. The side walls are covered to join the ceiling, and, with a dainty moulding and picture moulding, the line of decoration is hardly perceptible, and adds much to the general effect of the room. A handsome carved-column mirrored mantel and open fireplace gives an air of home comfort and attractiveness. Plastic ornamentation of the ceiling border and the chandelier give a finish that assists in the total ensemble.

most attractive and homelike rooms in the house. The kitchen is supplied with all the necessities—sink, hot-water tank, dish tray, cupboards, etc.—for making light work for the housekeeper. A hard maple floor minimizes the work of keeping the room neat.

The bathroom has tiled floor and wainscoting. The tub is porcelain, and the plumbing heavily nicked and open—all being of the latest sanitary pattern. Above the wainscoting the walls and ceiling are covered with sanitary wall paper in tile design, and the whole room is so fitted up as to insure protection to the health of the dwellers in the home.

The front bedroom is finished in natural wood, with pretty light pa-



Household Decoration By MARGARET GREENLEAF

"Mrs. A. B. C." writes: "I see that you give advice as to the finish of floors and status to be used. Will you please help me? I am doing over an old house, and the floors have all been varnished. I wish to have mine waxed. Is there any way in which I can remove the varnish surface, and will it be a very expensive process?"

"Will you kindly tell me, also, the best way to make a good waxed floor? Some of the floors have cracks in them. What can I do about that? Can I have a tan-colored portiere dyed dark green? And will you give me your advice as to whether I should match the exact shade of the wall paper in portieres to be used in a room that is not very large and has several doors?"

There is now on the market a varnish remover, which is said to successfully remove both varnish and colors. This is said to be much less expensive than the old way of scraping the floors. Shellac turns a floor dark sooner than either wax or varnish, but, unfortunately, this is not

no more wood is covered than can be rubbed off within fifteen minutes. Allow the filler to set until it loses its glossy appearance; then thoroughly rub the surface, rubbing across the grain, until the wood is smooth and clean. The filler should be allowed at least twenty-four hours to dry, and the work would prove better if forty-eight hours could elapse before applying the varnish.

I have quoted these directions from a treatise on the finish of floors. There are many preparations of wax on the market which give a nice-looking finish when applied to floors in the proper manner. The prepared wax can be applied with brush or cloth all over the surface, care being taken to spread it evenly. About half an hour should be allowed for it to dry, and then a heavy-weighted brush should be used to rub the surface, going first across the grain and then with it. After rubbing it this way, wrap the brush with a soft piece of woolen cloth, and rub to a final gloss.

In a room with many doors, the best effect is gained by using portieres of a color matching the side wall covering. In this way there is no danger of giving the patchy look to a small room that a more varied treatment might induce. It is quite possible to have tan-colored material dyed green. Take with you to the dye house a sample of your wall paper, and find out if the shade can be matched exactly. Putty can be used to fill cracks in floors, but must be well smoothed down and sandpapered when thoroughly dry.

"R. S. V. P." writes: "Please help me. I am finishing a new house, and must know something about how I can have the floors treated. The contractor in the small town where I live knows nothing. Can they be stained and finished without being varnished? Am I right in thinking you have sometimes in your articles, or in answers to letters, advised setting a mirror in the wall over the mantel shelf? My husband says I dreamed it, and that a mantel mirror requires a gold-leaf frame. Now I have a mantel in my house, over which I would like very greatly to use a mirror, but just now I do not feel we can afford such a handsome frame. Thinking you said they could be framed in flat moulding, like the woodwork of the room, or set in panelling, I decided to try the moulding. Am I right? What color is Flemish oak, and what other dark oaks are there?"

The answer to Mrs. A. B. C. goes fully into the question of floor finish. As to the mirror, by all means frame it in the flat moulding, which matches the woodwork. In many cases a mirror is framed is more effective than one in a gold frame, and certainly less expensive. Flemish oak is oak that has been treated to a black stain. There are a variety of dark-stained oaks on the market now. Very dark brown is known as Austrian or Belgian oak. Where the stain is a grayish brown, it is called weathered. English oak is like the so-called antique in color, but has a dull surface.

"Sharp & Co." writes: "The walls of my office are terra cotta, and I have been advised to use Indian blankets on my floor. The woodwork is mahogany. Taking this advice, I bought two very handsome blankets, but every man that comes in notices how the colors jar. What is wrong, and how can I set it right? I must keep the blankets. What is Colonial woodwork? I have had a discussion about it. My opponent says it is always ivory-white. Kindly answer through your most interesting column."

There seems nothing for it but to re-color or re-cover your walls. The carpet of Indian blankets and terra cotta refuse to harmonize. If your office is a very light one, use plain, dull-green paper on your walls. If dark, choose some unobtrusive shade of yellow. You will find either of these colors will "go" with your blankets. Colonial woodwork is not always white.

"Select a hard wood paste filler, make it thinner with turpentine, and add a quart of varnish remover to each gallon of the filler, stirring well. Apply to the wood freely, brushing across the grain, so that the heavy particles of the filler will drop into the pores. Care must be taken that

New Ideas in Bead Portieres

When the craze for bead portieres began to wane, a novel idea was introduced in their manufacture which has resulted in adding greatly to their popularity, as well as their beauty.

Instead of using long glass beads, entirely tiny shells in the natural mother of pearl colors were combined with them, and now the shells are dyed in solid colors to match the color scheme of the room. For instance, if the room is red, the shells are dyed the same shade, using green and white

Plants That Live Their Lives in Pots.

Most of the great flowers seen in the shops and the flower shows have spent all their lives in pots. They begin in little ones and are promoted as they grow, till they finally bloom in the shape we see them.